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ABSTRACT

THE STATEMENT IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR PARTS. THE FIRST PART DISCUSSES THE GOALS AND ORGANIZATION OF SANGAMON STATE UNIVERSITY. THE INSTITUTION WILL OPEN IN THE FALL OF 1970 AS AN UPPER DIVISION AND GRADUATE INSTITUTION WITH EMPHASIS ON THE LIBERAL ARTS AND THE GENERAL AREA OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT, AND RELATED PROFESSIONS. IT WILL OPERATE ON A QUARTER SYSTEM WITH ADMISSION IN THE JUNIOR YEAR OPEN TO QUALIFIED GRADUATES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OTHER QUALIFIED STUDENTS, AND WILL OFFER A SINGLE UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE, THE BA. THE SECOND PART INCLUDES THE MAJOR FIELDS AND PROGRAMS, PLUS INDIVIDUAL COURSES, THAT WILL BE OFFERED FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE. THE THIRD PART DISCUSSES THE APPLIED STUDY QUARTER, A PROGRAM OF APPLIED STUDY, TO BE VALUED AT 15 QUARTER HOURS AND TO CONSTITUTE A NORMAL REQUIREMENT FOR ALL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS. THE FOURTH PART LISTS THE FIELDS IN WHICH A MASTER'S DEGREE WILL BE AWARDED. THE MA WILL NOT REQUIRE A RESEARCH ORIENTED THESIS, BUT PROVEN COMPETENCE IN CLASS WORK, USE OF LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES AND IN WRITING ESSAYS AND SHORT RESEARCH PAPERS. (AF)

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V. ACADEMIC PROGRAM STATEMENT

This statement is divided into four parts as follows:

A. Goals and Organization of Sangamon State University

B. The Undergraduate Programs: The B.A. Degree

C. The Applied Study Quarter

D. Graduate Programs: The M.A. Degree

A. Goals and Organization of Sangamon State University

1. Sangamon State University is a new institution established pursuant to the Master Plan for Higher Education in Illinois, and like its sister institution, Governors State University in Park Forest (to open in 1972), is an upper division and graduate institution. Both Sangamon State University and Governors State University have unique missions in the sense that they are asked to be responsive in their programs and operating styles to the difficulties besetting students, universities, cities, the crises of the environment, and other contemporary problems. At the same time both institutions are asked to emphasize teaching and to restore it to its proper function in the institutional world of higher education. In its February 1968 Report on the New Senior Institutions, the Board of Higher Education stated:

> This kind of university is seen as a truly pioneering segment of public education, and the mission of the Board of Regents, to which the Governor and the General Assembly have entrusted it, is one calling for real educational innovation and for thinking in bold, new terms. The institutions within its province have a distinctive emphasis in program, distinctive kinds of faculty, and distinctive kinds of student bodies.

The initial thrust for Sangamon State University will be in the liberal arts and the general area of public affairs, government, and related professions. It will also be an innovative and teaching institution.

The statements which follow describe the manner in which the staff of Sangamon State University, after 90 days of intense planning, aided by consultants, students, interested observers, and by study of a vast literature on the university and its problems, propose to respond to its mandate.

2. Sangamon State University will open in the fall of 1970 in temporary buildings to be erected on the site of the new campus six miles southeast of Springfield, Illinois. Some five hundred students, full time, will be accommodated the

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first year, and an additional five hundred the second year. After that enrollment is expected to climb steadily to a maximum of ten to twelve thousand full-time students by 1982 or 1983.

3. The administrative structure of the university will display the traditional broad division of responsibilities into business affairs, academic affairs, and student affairs. Further refinement of the teaching sector of the university into academic divisions and departments or teaching areas will take place as faculty and programs develop.

   The university calendar will be on the quarter system, four quarters a year. Ten weeks of each quarter will be devoted to teaching and instruction, and one to two weeks at the end of each quarter to a short term of intense discussion of public affairs, analysis of field study experiences, and university governance. It is expected that the university calendar in addition to meeting the needs of its own students will articulate reasonably well with those of community colleges and neighboring colleges and universities.

4. Admission in the junior year will be open to qualified graduates of community colleges; to students seeking transfer from other colleges and universities; and others who can demonstrate they are ready for upper division or graduate study. A certain distribution and level of accomplishment in general education including introductory work in an academic specialty will be expected of applicants seeking admission, but not to the exclusion of graduates of community colleges holding the A.A. degree based upon broad general education requirements. Provision will be made for a limited amount of "catch up" work for students who have changed their major fields of study, or who have no more than six hours of entrance deficiences in general education or in subjects required for advanced study in a chosen field. Opportunity will be provided for students with entrance deficiences to assess their readiness for advanced study by examinations in the appropriate areas of advanced study and general education, in the absence of offering specific or recent course work.

5. Sangamon State University will offer a single undergraduate degree, the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) as an expression of its concern for literacy in liberal studies, public affairs, and disciplinary studies. It is felt that the unversity can best serve the student by preparing him for the vast variety of skills and activities he will meet in his life work rather than require him to take instruction only in a limited non-transferable skill or vocation. The planners of Sangamon State University are concerned that the well educated person also develop a meaningful life style and acquire a courageous and prudent responsiveness to the world around him, enriching not only himself but others.

Realizing that a student will be entering Sangamon State University with a wide variety of educational backgrounds and occupational goals, the faculty and staff at Sangamon State University intend to judge him only on the basis of his performance at Sangamon State. Prerequisites will be required only in areas of study in which these are absolutely necessary for advanced work. Placement examinations and independent study programs will be available to assist students in diagnosing their needs upon entrance. The fortunate location of Lincoln Land Community College and Sangamon State University on adjacent campuses will make possible cooperative and joint programs of study for students needing to make up sizeable entrance deficiences.

6. The curriculum of SSU has been designed so that students may either prepare for advanced study leading to the masters or doctoral degree, or prepare for immediate vocational and occupational goals.

   Rather than to state graduation requirements in terms of courses or points alone Sangamon State University, in an effort to rehumanize the educational process, will permit the student to proceed at his own rate of speed, offering him a range of instructional media, tutorials, and classroom experiences to this end. Obviously it is expected that the graduates of SSU will, upon completion of six quarters of study and work or its equivalent, be as well or better qualified as will be the graduates of other institutions of higher education. The curriculum and the study time of all undergraduates will be divided broadly into three areas: Disciplinary or multi-disciplinary studies; liberal studies and public affairs; and professional and applied study, including the work experience for academic credit. (See Part C of this statement.)

Note: At the outset no special courses in Black Studies are being planned at Sangamon State University. Problems of prejudice, race relations, Black History, and urban affairs will be treated seriously in a variety of disciplines, courses, and instructional media, and in the liberal studies and public affairs sector taken by all students. Students interested in pursuing Black Studies as a specialty may design a multi-disciplinary program of study in appropriate areas and courses. It is expected that, in the teaching of Black Studies, as in other areas of instruction, no qualified person will be excluded by reason of his race, creed, or color.

B. Undergraduate Programs: The B.A. Degree

1. Approval of the Board of Regents is requested for Sangamon State University to offer the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree to students completing their requirements by June 1972 in

the following undergraduate "major" fields and for programs combining two or three of these areas into multi-disciplinary programs of study.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
ECONOMICS
GOVERNMENT
HISTORY
MATHEMATICS
PSYCHOLOGY
SOCIOLOGY

2. In addition to the above undergraduate degree programs, instruction will be offered in the following areas of study for the purposes of providing breadth, elective choice, and to meet the interests and need for instruction and certification in certain professional fields.

Art
Chemistry
Geography
Music
Speech and Drama

Accounting
Administration
Management
Marketing
Elementary and Secondary Teaching Methods
Tests and Measurements
Instructional Materials
Reading
Guidance
Student Teaching K-9, 6-12
Foundations of Education

3. With the appointment of qualified faculty in the above areas of study and with the acquisition of books and other learning resources, it is expected that the undergraduate instructional courses and programs listed above will enable students to meet requirements for elementary and secondary school teaching set by the State Teacher Certification Board. Depending upon the student's previous preparation, his choice of courses, his motivation, and his selection and utilization of his applied study experience, degree programs at Sangamon State University will assist students in qualifying for employment and/or advanced study areas such as the following:

Accounting
Business Administration
Management
Marketing
Public Administration
Community Planning
Environmental Studies
Several health and service professions
Teaching

C. The Applied Study Quarter

Pursuant to the emphasis upon practical career goals, approval is requested to establish a program of applied study, to be valued at fifteen quarter hours, and to constitute a normal requirement for all undergraduate students at Sangamon State University.

1. What Is the Applied Study Quarter?

The Applied Study Quarter involves junior or senior year students working ten to twelve weeks in a job normally related to their major interests and study fields. The student receives academic credit for one quarter. A successful applied study quarter, or an approved equivalent, will be required for a student's graduation.

2. Objectives of the Applied Study Quarter

In essence Sangamon State University believes that it is difficult to achieve educational "relevance" based simply on theoretical knowledge and campus experience. Applied study will provide an opportunity for the student to apply and relate his theoretical knowledge to the practical needs of the profession and the working world he is preparing for. The applied study experience will be a laboratory in the best sense of the word.

The university's philosophy on the applied study experience is clear: We shall ask that teaching and learning be linked to the world of work, and that during the student's work term in government, in schools, in private agencies or in business firms in Springfield and central Illinois, that they learn from their community about its everyday tasks, its professional life, and, of course, its problems and unmet needs. So teaching and learning will, at Sangamon State, involve far more than the classroom, the seminar and the library. It will embrace the community as well, providing at the same time a very practical means to help young people find themselves, through the discipline of employment, before being formally launched, as is too often the case, without meaningful work experiences, upon graduation from college.

Experience at other colleges and universities and at community colleges has demonstrated that applied studies increase student motivation with on-campus studies. Applied study encourages students to develop a sense of responsibility for their own education. It gives students practical experience in developing the much needed "human relations skills" in a real job situation. As has been true with other programs it is expected that students will often find summer work and even a position after graduation with the same employer he worked for on his applied study quarter.

3. The Planning Stage

Under direction of the Dean of Student Services Sangamon State University is contacting potential employers to chalk out jobs which Sangamon State University students might fill on a quarter (twelve weeks) or on a year-round basis. For example, an employer might wish to earmark a particular job to be filled by four SSU students who would replace each other throughout the calendar year. If initial discussion indicates good possibilities, subsequent follow-up discussions will work out the precise nature of the job, rate of pay, hours, etc. It is hoped that jobs and firms will be selected to provide the student a sound practical professional experience.

4. Implementation

The implementation of the applied study quarter for an individual student will be under the direction of the student's faculty advisor. At least a month before the student is to start his applied study quarter he will review the range of openings and select and then contact a potential employer. If the potential employer, the student, and the faculty member agree that the particular work experience discussed would be useful for all concerned, final arrangements will be made for the student to start work on a particular date with that employer.

At least twice during the career quarter the faculty member will visit the student on the job to confer with him and his supervisor. At the end of the work period the student will submit a substantial paper regarding his experience. The employer will also be asked to fill out an evaluation form. A determination of whether the student has passed the applied study quarter will be made on the basis of the student's over-all performance on the job, the comments by the employer on the evaluation form, and the paper which the student writes.

The employer will be invited to spend at least one day on campus at the end of the student's work quarter to participate in a seminar with other employers in similar fields, other students in the same field and faculty members in the same field. We envision that these seminars will provide an excellent opportunity for all concerned to review, periodically, the operations of the applied study program.

D. Graduate Programs: The M.A. Degree

Approval is requested to offer the Master of Arts degree in both a three-year curriculum commencing with the junior year of college, and including the B.A. degree, or beginning with post-baccalaureate work for recent graduates and adults. The Master of Arts degree has been selected because it will require of all students in each program of study a basic literacy in the written and verbal expression appropriate for leadership and responsibility in the professions; demonstrated ability to identify, read, analyze, criticize, and discuss intelligently scholarly literature in his chosen field of study. It is believed that the research oriented masters thesis traditionally required in many universities does not achieve several of the goals stated above. The "Master of Arts" degree at SSU therefore asks the student to establish his competence not only in class work, but by examination, by leadership of seminars by competent use of library and learning resources, as well as by writing essays and short research papers.

With a view to permitting award of the Master of Arts degree no earlier than June 1972, authority is requested to inaugurate programs in the following fields:

Administration:

Business
Education
Hospital
Public

Biological Sciences

Community Planning and Area Development

Economics

English

Guidance and Counseling

Government

Mathematics

Psychology

Sociology